Docket No.: 1209-0149PUS1 Art Unit: 1793

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A chemically bonded biomaterial element comprising:

an inorganic cement, exhibiting minimal dimensional changes upon hardening and longtime use, improved mechanical properties and improved translucency;

and added inert filler particles, wherein

the biomaterial element has a micro-structure to meet an algorithm, which is-defined by a formula:

$$\lambda = \frac{d * (1 - V_F)}{(V_F)}$$

where λ is the distance between filler particles of mean size d, and V_F is the volume content of non-reacted cement and the added inert filler particles, and where $\lambda \leq 10~\mu m$, and wherein the added inert filler particles have a particle size below 5 μm , and wherein the added inert filler particles consist of glass particles, apatites, brucite and/or bohmite.

- 2. (Previously Presented) The biomaterial element according to claim 1, wherein $\lambda \leq 8$ μm .
- 3. (Previously Presented) The biomaterial element according to claim 1, wherein V_F is less than 50 %.
- 4. (Previously Presented) The biomaterial element according to claim 1, wherein it exerts a pressure or tensile force of < 5 MPa on a surrounding volume.
 - 5. (Previously Presented) The biomaterial element according to claim 1, wherein

Art Unit: 1793

Docket No.: 1209-0149PUS1

the inorganic cement comprises Ca-aluminate, Casilicate and or Ca-phosphate, or a

mixture thereof.

6. (Previously Presented) A biomaterial element according to claim 1, wherein

the inorganic cement comprises CaO-Al₂O₃ system, and

a particle size of formed hydrates of these phases is below 3 μ m.

7. (Previously Presented) The biomaterial element according to claim 1, wherein the

biomaterial element further comprises an organic phase of polyacrylates and/or polycarbonates at

a volume content of less than 5 %.

8-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) The biomaterial element according to claim 1, wherein it

comprises in-situ formed apatite that separates the formed hydrates of the main system.

11. (Previously Presented) The biomaterial element according to claim 1, wherein a total

porosity is below 10 %, where at least 90% of the pores are minipores having a diameter below

 $0.5 \, \mu m$.

12. (Currently Amended) The biomaterial element according to claim 1, wherein it is a

dental material[[,]].

13. (Previously Presented) The biomaterial element according to claim 1, wherein the

biomaterial element contains an orthopaedic material or a bone cement.

14. (Previously Presented) The biomaterial element according to claim 1, wherein it is a

component, or is in granule form, or in a carrier material for drug delivery.

3

GMM/TK/kam

15. (Cancelled)

- 16. (Previously Presented) The biomaterial element according to claim 1, wherein $\lambda \leq 4$ µm.
- 17. (Previously Presented) The biomaterial element according to claim 1, wherein $\lambda \leq 2$ μm .
- 18. (Previously Presented) The biomaterial element according to claim 1, wherein V_F is 5-45 %.
- 19. (Previously Presented) The biomaterial element according to claim 1, wherein V_F is 15-35 %.
- 20. (Previously Presented) The biomaterial element according to claim 1, wherein it exerts a pressure or tensile force of < 2 MPa on a surrounding volume.
- 21. (Previously Presented) The biomaterial element according to claim 1, wherein it exerts a pressure or tensile force of < 1 MPa on a surrounding volume.
- 22. (Previously Presented) The biomaterial element according to claim 6, wherein the CaO-Al₂O₃ system is CaO, (CaO)₃Al₂O₃, (CaO)₁₂(Al₂O₃)₇, CaOAl₂O₃, (CaO)(Al₂O₃)₂, (CaO)(Al₂O₃)₆ or pure Al₂O₃ or a mixture thereof.
- 23. (Previously Presented) The biomaterial element according to claim 6, wherein a main phase of the CaO-Al₂O₃ system is CaOAl₂O₃ or (CaO)(Al₂O₃) _{2.}

Application No. 10/533,380 Docket No.: 1209-0149PUS1 Art Unit: 1793

Supplemental Amendment in Response to Office Action dated October 12, 2007

24. (Previously Presented) The biomaterial element according to claim 6, wherein a main

phase of the CaO-Al₂O₃ system is CaOAl₂O₃.

25. (Previously Presented) The biomaterial element according to claim 6, wherein a

particle size of formed hydrates of these phases is below 1 µm.

26. (Previously Presented) The biomaterial element according to claim 6, wherein a

particle size of formed hydrates of these phases is below 0.5 µm.

27. (Previously Presented) The biomaterial element according to claim 1, wherein added

inert filler particles have a particle size below 2 µm.

28. (Previously Presented) The biomaterial element according to claim 1, wherein a total

porosity is below 5 %, distributed on minipores having a diameter below 0.1 µm, to an extent of

at least 90 % of the total porosity.

29. (Previously Presented) A biomaterial element according to claim 12, wherein the

dental material is a dental filling material or a root filling material.